View this email in your browser

Participants at PCC's Roots of Resilience conference. Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India

Shaping Collective Digital Futures

Dear Friends and Colleagues,
As I reflect on our efforts in 2023, in the shadows of the October 7th attack, the massive military incursion in Gaza, and the persisting wars in Ukraine and Sudan, maintaining focus proves challenging. Nevertheless, our joint efforts present a meaningful avenue for us to make positive contributions to the world. Join me as I review our collective impact over the past year and outline plans for the upcoming months.

Global Community Building

The Roots of Resilience Conference

- 8th PCC conference: Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala (India), November 30 - December 2, 2023

- 99 participants from 15 countries
- Overview
- Program (Online)
- Download the program (PDF)

At the conference, Anita Gurumurthy, Trebor Scholz, and members of the Kerala government presented a co-authored declaration for a new innovation ecosystem aimed at shaping our collective digital futures.

A CALL TO ACTION: READ AND SIGN
The Thiruvananthapuram Declaration on A New Innovation Ecosystem for Our Collective Digital Futures
emerged as an outcome of the Roots of Resilience conference

- Read here
- Sign here
- Deadline: January 31, 2024 at 11:59 pm ET

Other results emanating from the Roots of Resilience conference:

- A series of 44 short video interviews with participants
- See photo and short video log (250 photos, 5 videos)

- TV (Kerala Vision News)

With the Roots of Resilience Conference, also the immeasurable outcomes shine brightly. Beyond mere numbers and metrics, we ignite friendships, kindle inspiration, and set transformative projects into motion. Our collective impact goes beyond the "tyranny of the measurable."

Global Education

Platform Co-op School

- website
- 24 weeks
- 45 organizations from 24 countries
- 17 learning sessions

Initiated and guided by PCC, the Platform Co-op School ran from January to July 2023, bringing together 45 organizations from 24 countries. This collaborative effort focused on researching and developing equitable, cooperative digital platforms dedicated to fostering accountable and just work environments.

Learning sessions included:

- 5 theory jam sessions,
- 4 community assemblies (read a summary of the sessions here),
- 7 seminars, and
- one-day business course.

Guest speakers included Adriane Clomax, Erik Forman, Ra Criscitiello, Jad Esber, Anita Gurumurthy, Denise Kasparian, Santosh Kumar, Jason Spicer (write-up here) Ines Lopez, and Nathan Schneider, Vera Negri Zamagni (see this post about her seminar), and many others.

A CALL TO ACTION: READ AND SIGN
The Cooperative Digital Infrastructure Manifesto

- Read here
- Sign here
- Deadline: December 31, 2023 at 11:59 pm ET

Value efforts like these? Please don't underestimate the impact of your support. Join us in sustaining this work by offering your financial support.

Economic historian at the University of Bologna, Professor Vera Negri Zamagni as part of Platform Co-op School.

Founders Unplugged

- website
- 12 weeks
- 26 founders

Over 12 weeks, we organized a course series with presentations from founders and leaders of platform cooperatives. We hosted founders weekly, sharing experiences and discussing the behind-the-scenes of starting and sustaining a platform co-op. Our goal is to provide insights, empowering aspiring platform cooperatives and

Diaria Co-op (Uruguay), **Emma Back** of Equal Care Co-op (UK), **Kyle Schmolze** of Groupmuse (USA), **Tibet Sprague** of Hylo (USA), among others.

Mini-courses for Farmers, Ranchers, and their Supporters

We designed and conducted three mini-courses on the intersection of agriculture and technology, emphasizing the role and potential of platform cooperatives in this sector. The courses, namely **Future of Farming**, **Data-Driven Resilience for Small Farms**, and **Leverage Generative AI for your Cooperative**, were collaboratively organized with **NCBA-CLUSA**. Learning coaches for these courses included **Laurie Wayne** of Open Food Network, **Lindsey Lusher Shute** of GrownBy, **Inés López** of COBI/PescaData, **Safiya Husain** of Karya, among others.

Evren Aydoğan
Executive Director, NeedsMap

Jordi Picas Vilà
Director of Innovation, Suara Cooperative

Anna Sroka – Iwicka
Vice President of Partnerships at Fairbnb

Faiza Haupt

Inés López
Catalyst of Change, COBI

David Robles Llanes
co-founder Gestcoop.es

Akkanut Wantanasombut
Researcher, Institute of Asian Studies, Chulalongkorn University

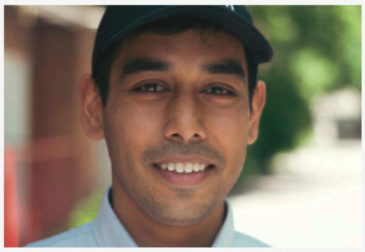
Vera Vidal
La Coop des Communs

Safiya Husain
Chief Impact Officer & Co-Founder, Karya

Heira Hardiyanti
Co-founder of MyCoolClass

Harinjaka A. Ratozamanana
Changemaker

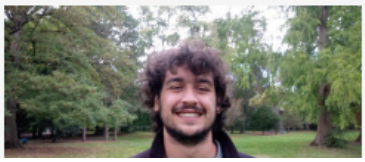
Kyle Schmolze
Co-founder & Tech Lead, Groupmuse

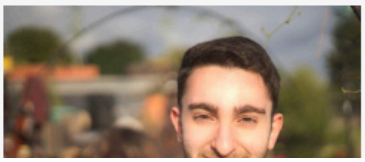


Mansib Rahman
Co-founder, Radish.coop

Anne-Pauline De Cler
Ph.D. Candidate, Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers

Stuart Fulton
Director of Change, COBI





Damián Osta
Co-Founder & Product Director, La Diaria

Matías Bertranou
Project Manager and Researcher, Mapocho

Jad Esber
Co-Founder and CEO, koodos

Emanuele Dal Carlo
President, Fair Bnb Network Società Cooperativa

Emma Back
Founder, Equal Care Co-op

Tibet Sprague
communitarian technologist

Hugo Felinto
Relationship and Business Consultant, Coopersystem

Ayushi Arora
Enterprise Development Jr. Coordinator, SEWA Cooperative Federation

Outcomes

Another outcome of the Founders Unplugged course, to be developed through 2024, is a set of case studies of platform cooperatives.

Research

Publications 2023-24 ICDE Fellowship Cohort

In this **summary post**, you can learn more about the research findings of seven 2022-2023 Fellows, covering topics such as the implementation of CoopCycle in Argentina, challenges in maintaining cooperative values within the Mondragon Cooperative Network, the potential of web3 technology, the role of municipalities in supporting platform cooperatives, and policy proposals for a fair digital economy.

“DAOs and Platform Cooperatives: Lessons from the Commons” by Philémon Poux. **Download PDF**

“State and Local Policy Foundations for Data Cooperatives in the San Francisco Bay Area” by Katya Abazajian. **Download PDF**

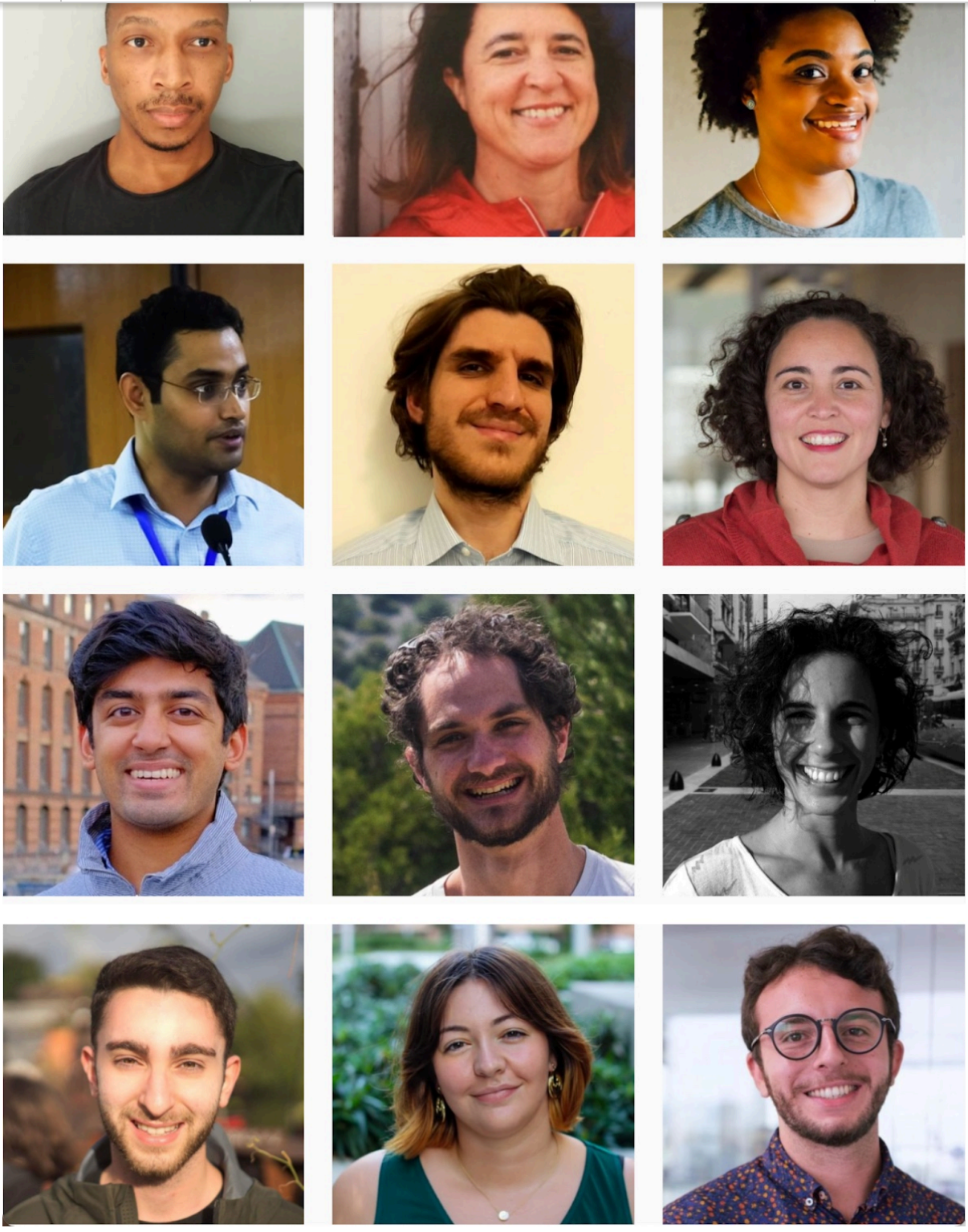
“The Potential for Platform Cooperatives in the Mondragon Ecosystem” by Sain López. **Download PDF**

“Walking Backwards Into a More Cooperative Digital Future” by Jad Esber. **Download PDF**

“Lessons From Italy: The Italian Platform Cooperative Ecosystem and the Role of Municipal Institutions” by Pietro Ghirlanda. **Download PDF**

“How Do Platform Co-ops Work? Lessons from Argentina” by Denise Kasparian. **Download PDF**

“A Policy Framework for Platform Cooperatives Grounded in U.S. History” by Sadev Parikh. **Download PDF**



2023/2024 ICDE Research Fellowship Cohort

The 2023/2024 ICDE fellows have shared a range of blog posts about their work, discussing topics like non-capitalist approaches in the Open Food Network in

[redacted] agriculture in Madagascar.

They also explore the incorporation of international platform cooperatives in the Global South, a Thai initiative for plastic-free food delivery, forest management in India, a "public option" for platform co-ops, the musician cooperative Groupmuse, and the historical perspectives of cooperative pioneers and climate justice.

These posts are the guardrails for the forthcoming reports of the current cohort.

Call for Applications

READ AND APPLY
Would you like to become part of the global and vibrant community of scholars at the Institute for the Cooperative Digital Economy at The New School?
Review our open call for the **ICDE research fellowship**. Join the global community and make sure you don't miss the deadline.

- Read **here**
- Deadline: January 21, 2024, at 11:59 pm ET

We invite you to **financially support** our fellowship. You could, for example, sponsor an individual fellow or our 2024 symposium.

Photo: Costa Rica

Fellows in our institute typically generate academic research, but we also welcome think pieces, occasionally from the broader community or our own fellows. I extend my gratitude to the authors of these think pieces, including:

- **Pancasila Economics and Cooperatives: The Path to Digital Economic Democracy in Indonesia** by Wirendra Tjakrawerdaja
- **Platform Cooperatives in Costa Rica** by Manfred Vargas Rodríguez (in Spanish **here**)
- **Understanding Democratic Decision-Making in Cooperatives** by Victoria Sgarro
- **A Way to Go: Creating a Support System for Platform Cooperative in Thailand** by Akkanut Wantanasombut
- **Scaling Platform Co-ops with Token-based Financing** by Rob Williams
- **Revitalizing Online Sociality: Exploring New Forms of Community Ownership** by Trebor Scholz

- Cooperatives Should Embrace the Opportunities of AI by Mark Siebert
- Platform Cooperatives x Fairwork by Lola Brittain

2024 PCC Conference

I invite you to stay informed about the conference! Share your email and phone number with us to receive updates. Sign up here.

more impactful than ever.

2024 Programming

As we stride into 2024, our focus is set on a lineup of events designed to advance our research agenda and strengthen community ties. These events are the result of a community workshop held late in October 2023. The coming year promises events, mini-courses, research seminars, and more.

- Mini-courses on **Agricultural Marketplaces, Cooperative Care, Data Cooperatives, and Platforms for Artists.** Explore these specialized courses offered in numerous languages, catering to a global audience online.
- An event gathering diverse **tech cooperatives** to explore collaborative code recycling and other shared objectives.
- Exploring the dynamics of **LLC Worker Cooperatives,** especially in the Global South, is the focal point of this event.
- An event that embraces **failure** as an opportunity for learning, focusing on the experiences of platform cooperatives that have shut down.
- Join **policy discussions shaping the cooperative digital terrain in Chile, Costa Rica, Argentina, and Brazil** through this session.
- **Solidarity Platformization Forum**: Join us to learn about solidarity-driven approaches within the realm of platform cooperatives.
- Learn about the work of **Prof. Ferreras** as we showcase her contributions to the discourse in support of a more democratic economy
- Revisit the insights and impacts of our **Roots of Resilience conference in India,** reflecting on the lessons learned.

Please **financially support** our programming: It allows us to hire translators, and document the outcomes of courses for future students.

platform coop or a related project that is not currently listed, please reach out to us.

READ AND ENROLL
You can also enroll in my online seminar at The New School
Eco Radicals: The Legacy of Revolutionary Cooperatives

- Wednesdays
- 12:10 PM to 2:00 PM ET
- Jan 24, 2024 to May 08, 2024
- Questions? Ask **here**.

Save the Date

On June 9th, 2024, we'll celebrate the 5th anniversary of the Institute for the Cooperative Digital Economy at The New School in New York City, in person. If NYC is within reach for your travel, join us, and add the event to your schedule right now.

Your support is vital in covering the considerable expenses associated with bringing fellows to this NYC symposium, ensuring a meaningful and inclusive research gathering at the global intersection of cooperative principles and the digital economy. **Support** the symposium.

ICDE Research Reports from 2023/2024 Fellows and Introduction to the 2024/2025

In March 2024, we'll feature the research reports from our **2023/2024 ICDE research fellows** and introduce the 2024/2025 fellows.

We encourage you to send us your feedback, comments, or suggestions, and reach out if you'd like us to offer a mini-course for your community, university, or cooperative – in any language. **pcc@newschool.edu**

Supporting Our Shared Purpose

As we bid farewell to 2023, I asked for your financial support for the PCC. Over the years, we've sustained ourselves, offered classes, hosted free events, and generated numerous research reports on the digital cooperative economy. Your donations help young researchers and build a global community through our conferences, each engaging around a thousand people. We rely on your support—please consider contributing now if you value our work. **Follow this link to support us now.**

We also ask you to follow us on **Instagram** and **LinkedIn**, both new-ish accounts. If you are a coop or collective interested in working closely with us, join the **PCC Solidarity Collaboratory**.

As we bid farewell to 2023, I reflect on our shared purpose and collective resilience. We've had quite a journey, weaving innovation through community building, research, and fellowships. Looking ahead, your continued support is crucial to sustain our momentum. I am incredibly grateful for each of you.

Thank you for being part of this journey.

with gratitude,
R. Trebor Scholz

Brought to you by

Platform Cooperativism Consortium

You are reading Co-ops Digitally, an intermittent digest of news, events, opportunities, and analysis in the cooperative digital economy brought to you by The New School's Platform Cooperativism Consortium. The cooperative digital economy in one email.

Visit us at platform.coop

Our mailing address is:
Platform Cooperativism Consortium
The New School
79 Fifth Avenue, 1601
New York, New York
10003

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.

Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs (CC BY-NC-ND) 2019, Platform Cooperativism Consortium.
If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you may not distribute the modified material.